

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-14 (cancelled)

15-16 (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) ~~The composition according to claim 15, wherein the active agent~~ A composition comprising a protein fragment of the uncoupling protein (UCP) family, as an active ingredient, alone or in association with at least one other active agent, wherein the protein fragment is a peptide of the following formula: ~~(I)~~

(AA)_n-Pro-X1-X2-X1-X3-Lys-X1-Arg-X4-X5-(AA)_n

wherein:

X1 = Leu, Thr, or Val;

X2 = Asp, or Glu;

X3 = Ala, or Val;

X4 = Leu, Phe, or Tyr;

X5 = Gln, Ile, or Met;

(AA) is any ~~particular~~ amino acid or derivative of said amino acid ~~one of its derivatives~~, and n is a whole number ranging from 0 to 2.

18. (currently amended) The composition according to claim 17, 15, ~~wherein the active agent is a peptide chosen among peptides corresponding to~~ wherein said protein fragment consists of a peptide selected from the group consisting of:

- 1) Pro Leu Asp Thr Ala Lys Val Arg Leu Gln (SEQ ID NO: 1),
- 2) Pro Thr Glu Val Ala Lys Val Arg Phe Gln (SEQ ID NO: 2),
- 3) Pro Thr Asp Val Ala Lys Val Arg Leu Gln (SEQ ID NO: 3),
- 4) Pro Thr Glu Val Ala Lys ~~Valley~~ Val Arg Leu Gln (SEQ ID NO: 4),
- 5) Pro Thr Asp Val Ala Lys ~~Valley~~ Val Arg Phe Gln (SEQ ID NO: 5),
- 6) Pro Val Asp Val Val Lys Thr Arg Phe Ile (SEQ ID NO: 6),
- 7) Pro Val Asp Val ~~Valley~~ Val Lys Thr Arg Tyr Met (SEQ ID NO: 7),
- 8) Pro Val Asp Val Val Lys Thr Arg Phe Met (SEQ ID NO: 8), and
- 9) Pro Val Asp Val Val Lys Thr Arg Tyr Ile (SEQ ID NO: 9).

19. (currently amended) The composition according to claim 18, wherein the peptide is ~~has sequence ID N° (1), i.e.~~

~~the sequence Pro-Leu-Asp-Thr-Ala-Lys-Val-Arg-Leu-Gln~~ (SEQ ID
NO: 1).

20. (currently amended) The composition according to claim ~~15~~18, wherein the peptide ~~is selected among peptides from which~~ has at least one functional group ~~is~~ protected by a protective group, this protective group being either an acylation or an acetylation of the amino terminal end, or on an amidation or an esterification of the terminal carboxyl end, or both.

21. (currently amended) The composition according to claim ~~15~~18, wherein the active agent is present, in the composition, ~~with~~ in a concentration ranging from approximately 0.05 to 500 ppm, ~~and preferentially with a concentration ranging from approximately 0.1 to 50 ppm~~ compared to the total weight of the final preparation.

22. (currently amended) The composition according to claim ~~15~~18, wherein the active agent is beforehand solubilized in one or more cosmetically or pharmaceutically acceptable solvents ~~like water, ethanol, propylene glycol, butylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, ethoxylated or propoxylated diglycols, cyclic polyols, vaseline, a vegetable oil, or any mixture of these solvents.~~

23. (currently amended) The composition according to claim ~~15~~18, wherein the active agent is beforehand ~~solubilized in a cosmetic or pharmaceutical vector, like liposomes, or adsorbed on powdery organic polymers, mineral supports like talcs and bentonites, and more generally~~ solubilized in, or fixed on, ~~any~~a cosmetically or pharmaceutically acceptable vector.

24. (currently amended) The composition according to claim ~~15~~18, wherein ~~the said~~ peptide is present in an amount sufficient to treat cellulite and/or orange-peel skin; and/or in order to reduce, eliminate, or prevent excess subcutaneous fat.

25. (currently amended) A cosmetic and/or dermatological and/or pharmaceutical composition ~~characterized in that it contains~~comprising, in an acceptable medium, as an active ingredient, ~~at least one peptide such as defined according to claim 15~~ at least one said peptide as defined in the composition of claim 18.

26. (currently amended) The composition according to claim 24, ~~characterized in that it~~wherein said composition takes the form of a cosmetic and/or dermatological

composition adapted for cutaneous topical administration ~~including and includes~~ a cosmetically or pharmaceutically acceptable medium.

27. (currently amended) The composition according to claim 25, ~~characterized in that~~wherein said composition can take the form of an aqueous, ~~or hydro-alcoholic solution, or oil solution, or under the form of oil in water emulsions, water in oil emulsions, or multiple emulsions, or under the form of creams, suspensions, or powders. These compositions can also be more or less fluid or solid and can take the form of creams, lotions, milks, serums, ointments, gels, pastes, mousse, or sticks.~~

28. (currently amended) A process of cosmetic care to reduce, eliminate, and/or prevent excess subcutaneous fat, and/or intended to fight against cellulite, and/or to fight against the phenomenon of orange-peel skin, ~~characterized in that one is administered~~said process comprising administering to the surface of the skin of a subject an effective quantity of ~~a~~the composition defined according to claim 25.

29. (currently amended) A process for treating excess subcutaneous fat, cellulite, or orange-peel skin, comprising

administering to the skin of a subject in need thereof an effective amount of ~~a~~the composition according to claim ~~15~~18.

30. (cancelled)

31. (new) The composition according to claim 21, wherein the active agent is present, in the composition, in a concentration ranging from approximately 0.1 to 50 ppm compared to the total weight of the final preparation.

32. (new) The composition according to claim 22, wherein said one or more cosmetically or pharmaceutically acceptable solvents is selected from the group consisting of water, ethanol, propylene glycol, butylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, ethoxylated or propoxylated diglycols, cyclic polyols, vaseline, a vegetable oil, and any mixture of these solvents.

33. (new) The composition according to claim 23, wherein said cosmetically or pharmaceuticalally vector comprises a liposome.

34. (new) The composition according to claim 23, wherein the active agent is beforehand absorbed on powdery organic polymers, mineral supports, talcs or bentonites.

35. (new) The composition according to claim 25, wherein said composition can take the form of an oil solution or emulsion chosen from oil-in-water emulsions, water-in-oil emulsions, or multiple emulsions.

36. (new) The composition according to claim 25, wherein said composition can take the form of creams, suspensions, or powders, wherein said composition can also be more or less fluid or solid and can take the form of creams, lotions, milks, serums, ointments, gels, pastes, mousse, or sticks.